GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

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IT EXPORTS
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Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

:-

(a) whether Indian IT exports to Latin America, Africa and Middle East are likely to grow by 40% in the fiscal year ending March, 2004;

(b) if so, the efforts made by the Government to consolidate Indian IT presence in Latin America, Africa and the Middle East to achieve the said target;

(c) whether any official delegations sent had visited these countries in that connection; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY(SU THIRUNAVUKKARASAR)

(a) Export of IT to Latin America, Africa and Middle East during the last three years is as under:-

(Value: Rs. crores)

Region	1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002
Latin America	024.87	035.99	047.11
African Countries	265.66	224.34	250.40
Middle East	193.15	440.36	327.18

It is expected that the growth rate achieved in the past would improve in the coming financial year.

(b), (c) & (d) The Government has announced special packages to promote trade with Latin American and African countries. Electronics & Computer Software Export Promotion Council (ESC) under the Department of Information Technology has been regularly inviting delegations from these countries as well as sponsoring Indian delegations to visit these countries.

Some of the recent initiatives of the ESC in the Latin American market are:

(i) The ESC set up an Information Pavilion at Electronic Americas held in Sao Paulo, Brazil during 21 - 25 May 2001.

(ii) ESC alongwith Engineering Export Promotion Council (EEPC) organised the Indian Industrial Product and Technology Exposition

(India Tech) at Caracas, Venezuela during 18 - 21 July 2001.

(iii) ESC officials participated in World Electronic Forum held at Rio de Janiero, Brazil during 26 - 28 November 2001.

(iv) Secretary, DIT visited Brazil alongwith a business delegation during September 2002.

(v) While 39 delegates from Latin American countries visited INDIASOFT 2002, 47 delegates participated in INDIASOFT 2003.

ESC has signed 5 MoUs with different organizations in Latin American region to promote trade in information technology and electronics. And also prepared CD-ROM on Indian IT Industry in Portugese and Spanish language to publicise Indian advantages in IT sector in Latin America.

Similarly, in the African and Middle East Markets, ESC organised Indian participation in major IT events during 2002-03. 26 delegates from the African continent participated in INDIASOFT2003. ESC has also signed MoUs with counterpart organizations inAfrica and Middle East.

ESC also proposes to organize Indian participation in two IT events in Middle East and one IT event in Latin America during theyear 2003-04.